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Fumigation of fruit vessels—Medical inspectors on fruit vessels bound for Mobile.

AUGUST 8, 1905.

When steamer *Imperator* sails for New Orleans on the 9th or 10th of this month holds and living apartments shall be fumigated—the former just prior to the loading of fruit, and the latter before vessel sails—according to instructions.

All the Mobile ships are to have a marine medical inspector on board from now on. The first steamer to carry an inspector was the steamship *Imperator*, which arrived here August 4.

This Mobile inspector is not a physician. His duties consist simply in keeping a daily record of the pulse and temperature of the crew, but his presence on board insures the observance of the quarantine regulations that prohibit unnecessary communication between the ship and the shore. Up to the present time the enforcing of this regulation has been almost impossible.

Notices posted relative to certificates for passengers—Yellow fever in Leon and Managua.

AUGUST 8, 1905.

Upon my arrival here, April 1 last, I posted a notice in the steamship company's office, for the benefit of passengers, informing them that they must report to me for a certificate five days prior to departure of a steamer.

Yesterday I again posted a similar notice and caused other notices to be displayed in the local hotel and in several public places about the town. The reason for posting of these extra notices, with the regulations of the Service more clearly set forth, is that the steamship company has decided for their own protection not to issue tickets to prospective passengers unless these shall have applied for passage five full days prior to the sailing of a steamer, no matter where the applicant may come from. This ruling, which is in accordance with Public Health and Marine-Hospital Service regulations, but not with the Louisiana State board's quarantine laws, that require a two days' detention only, places upon your representative the sole responsibility, or at least the better part of it.

The report of the existence of yellow fever in Leon and Managua, Nicaragua, and in other cities in the interior is confirmed by each new arrival in Bluefields. It is this that has prompted the steamship company to protect themselves by demanding that all passengers shall have been here in Bluefields 5 days prior to the sailing of a steamer.

The general sanitary and health conditions of this port and vicinity remain good and with only a small death rate.

Report from San Juan del Norte—Quarantine against ports of Panama.

Consul Ryder reports, July 10, as follows:

All ports in this Republic have been closed to vessels from the south which have touched at ports in Panama.

This precautionary measure was taken by President Zelaya on June 28, for the reason that bubonic plague had been reported in the Republic of Panama.

I have further to inclose a translation of the decree proclaiming the closing of the ports of Nicaragua to vessels from Panama.